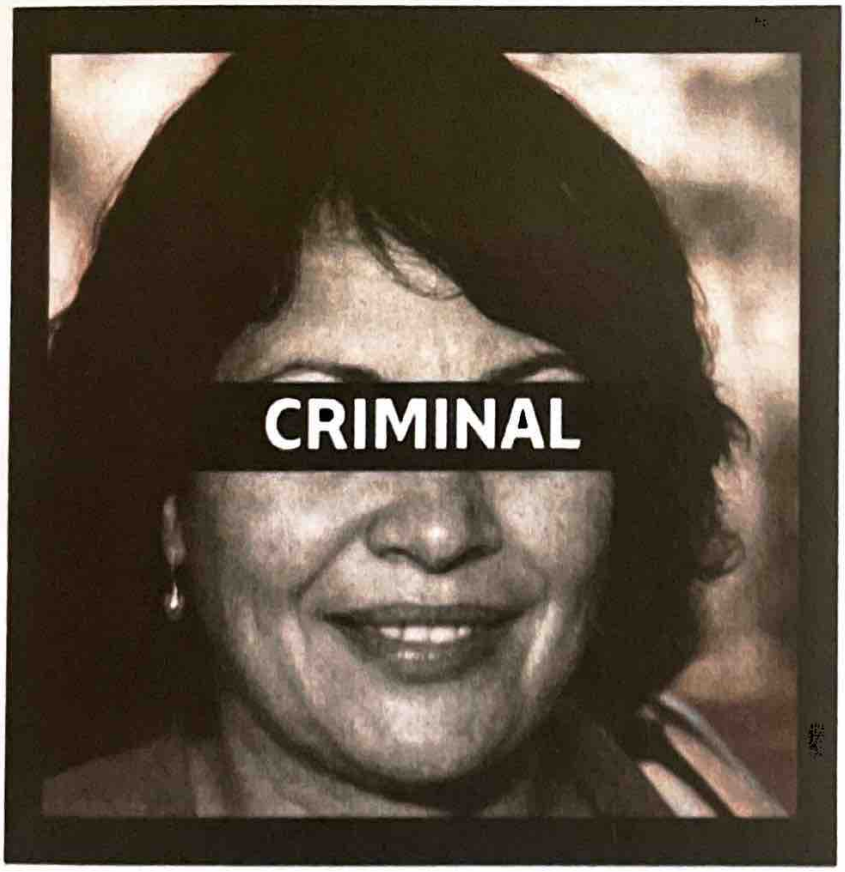
WANTED



FOR HAVING A MISCARRIAGE

WHICH THE COURTS CANNOT BE SURE WASN'T AN ABORTION

WHICH THE COURTS CANNOT DETERMINE WASN'T DONE WITH MALICE

WHICH MUST BE PUNISHED IN WAYS THAT CANNOT BE REVERSED

THE CRIMINALIZATION OF ABORTION MEANS NAVIGATING AN INSIDIOUS WEB OF CONSEQUENCES

IT'S IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THE REALITY OF OUR CURRENT SITUATION; THE INTENTION OF THIS ZINE IS TO BE A PRIMER, AN INTRODUCTION, A HELPING HAND

THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

"THE CRIMINALIZATION OF SEXUAL, REPRODUCTIVE AND ECONOMIC AUTONOMY IS ROOTED IN A LONG HISTORY OF RACIAL CAPITALISM AND WHITE SUPREMACY IN LEGAL, MEDICAL, AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS, WHICH HAS DEEMED SOME PEOPLE "UNFIT" AND "UNDESERVING" OF BASIC NEEDS LIKE HEALTH CARE AND REPRODUCTIVE AUTONOMY."

DECRIMINALIZE+ABORTION, BEYOND DO NO HARM COALITION (2021)

SO, WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO CRIMINALIZE SOMETHING?

CRIMINALIZING IS THE PROCESS BY WHICH BEHAVIORS AND INDIVIDUALS TURN INTO CRIMES AND CRIMINALS. (MICHALOWSKI, 1985)

WHERE HAVE WE SEEN CRIMINALIZATION BEFORE?

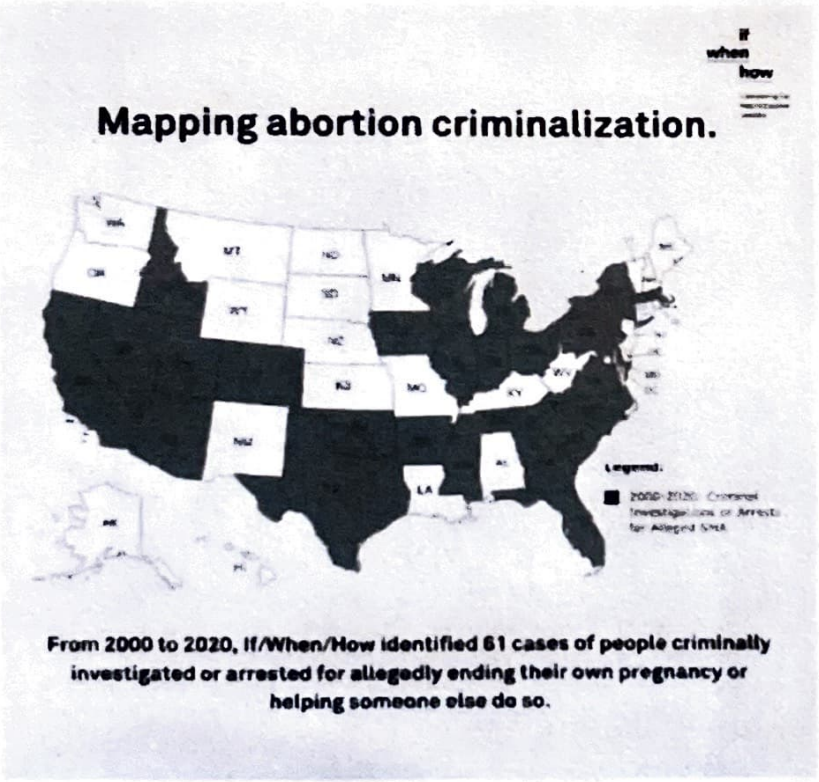
HOMELESSNESS: IT IS ILLEGAL IN SOME STATES TO SLEEP OUTSIDE

WAR ON DRUGS: PENALIZING FOR ADDICTION DOESN'T FIX THE PROBLEM

PROSTITUTION: MAKING IT ILLEGAL ONLY MAKES IT MORE UNSAFE

MENTAL HEALTH CRISES: INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES ARE OFTEN INCARCERATED FOR MINOR, NONVIOLENT CRIMES DISPROPORTIONATELY

THE PROBLEM: IT IS DIFFICULT TO TELL IF SOMEONE HAS HAD AN ABORTION, MISCARRIAGE, OR STILLBIRTH


if
when
how
Mapping abortion criminalization.
Legend.
LA
From 2000 to 2020, If/When/How identified 61 cases of people criminally investigated or arrested for allegedly ending their own pregnancy or helping someone else do so.

EVEN PRIOR TO DOBBS BEING STRUCK DOWN, STATES WERE PUNISHING PEOPLE FOR "ALLEGEDLY" HAVING ABORTIONS OR HELPING OTHERS ACCESS ABORTIONS

CRIMINALIZING HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS MEANS PUNISHING BOTH THE PATIENTS AND THE PROVIDERS

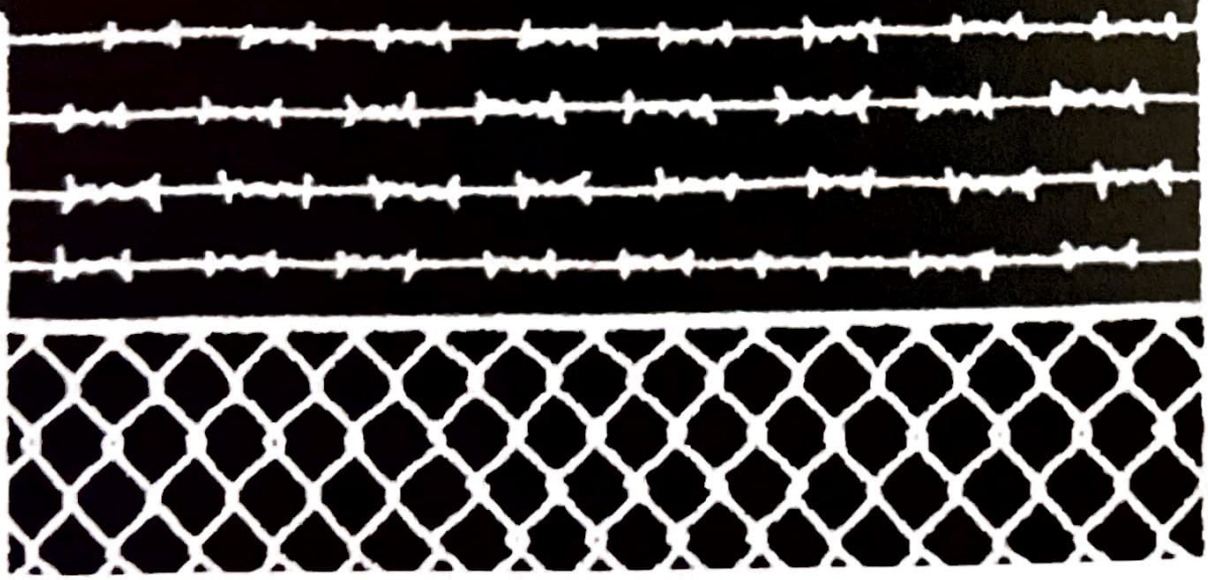
IN INDIANA, "THE PENALTY FOR PROVIDING AN ABORTION OUTSIDE OF ... STRICT EXCEPTIONS IS A LEVEL 5 FELONY, JAIL TIME, AND LOSS OF YOUR MEDICAL LICENSE, ACCORDING TO THE AAMC.

THIS CAN MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR PROVIDERS TO BE TIMELY IF SOMEONE IS EXPERIENCING A LIFE OR DEATH SITUATION.

CRIMINALIZING ABORTIONS WILL ALSO PRIMARILY HURT PEOPLE OF COLOR AND THE IMPOVERISHED, BOTH OF WHICH ARE ALREADY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.

BEING CHARGED CAN RESULT IN SERVING A LIFE SENTENCE OR UPWARDS OF $100,000 FINES IN THE WORST CASE SCENARIO (HRGJ CLINIC, CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW)

PRISON SENTENCES CARRY WITH THEM THE ADDED BURDEN OF FINANCIAL COSTS (DURING AND AFTER TIME SERVED), HEALTH PROBLEMS (MENTAL AND PHYSICAL), AND ARE SOCIALLY DESTRUCTIVE TO BOTH INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES (BECKETT & GOLDBERG, 2022).



THE TRUTH IS,

ABORTION IS NORMAL AND MORAL.

AND YOU CAN BE A PART OF THE FIGHT TO KEEP IT THAT WAY